

The Official Newsletter of the Kansas City DX Club

KC DX NEWS

ABØX-EDITOR

KCDXC Website: <http://www.kcdxclub.com/>

NOVEMBER 2022

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NEXT KCDXC MEETING: NOV.21 -The next KCDXC meeting will be a LIVE meeting at the JOCO Library, 9875 W. 87th St., Overland Park KS, 66212.Start: 630pm. Zoom available also. NEW MONTHLY FEATURE: SHACK PICTURES! This month, KØTHN is featured. Send in your shack pics to the Editor: ab0x@kc.rr.com.



KØTHN's shack is featured this month in the newsletter. Charlie has a beautiful desk full of vintage gear with Hammarlund, EF Johnson, National and Hallicrafters radios.

KØIZ is featured next month.

Send in your shack pictures to the Editor at ab0x@kc.rr.com.

KCDXC DXCC HONOR ROLL

Call	Mixed	CW	Phone	DIGI	IOTA	160	6 M	DX Challenge
AB0X	357	353	349	236		226	46	2382
N0RB	353	347	351				23	2269
K0CA	350	349	350	331	318	112		2631
N0CWR	350	350	350	326	985	207	93	2933
NX0I	350	349	347	271		211	6	2522
K3PA	350	348	345	321		188	36	2736
K0HQW	349	333	347			33		1352
AC0A	348	321	348	24	882		15	2288
K0VXU	348	335	331	265	439	143	2	2295
KS0DX	347	318	348	129	360			2218
K4SV	346	340	344	337		301	87	2852
K0GY	344	340	344	290			5	2295
KB0X	336							
K0AP	334	331	325	295		47	8	2353
W0QQ	334	248	332	234	151	115	38	1937
K4SX	331	280	320	187		52	82	1773
KE5BR	335	177	297	79				742
K0THN	334	322	288		243	1		1929
WA0WOF	330							
W0MB	327	252	325	279		45		1849
K0XM	326	292	275	225		113	24	1858
AA0MZ	312	290	292	220	532	44	20	1296
AC0C	310	306	267	243	160	128	3	1852
K0IZ	300		300					
NS0D	263	219	142	130		3	2	
AI60	255	228	197	171		20	10	992
AD0K	257	242	85	85	196	35	4	1329
W0XE	248	216	193	14				833
W0DR	225	30	174	70		10	7	622
N0EG	223	189	158	109		24	11	702
N9GB	203							
KS0AA	172	75	84	154		3		507
W0ZAP	140	37	75	110		18	2	382
W0HL	96	7	50	78		5	7	231
WD0SRI	63	17	56			1	1	138

Red indicates member is at the top of the DXCC Honor Roll in that respective class. Totals are with deletions. NOTE: When changes of DXCC totals are sent in to me, they are immediately updated in the next month here in the newsletter. Send to ab0x@kc.rr.com . Please only one update a month.

The Presidents Corner

November 2022

Chuck KØXM

Hello members!!!

Last month's meeting was a good one on Zoom. Reinhard of RF Kit talked about his RF2K-S LDMOS Solid State Amp for HF. He had a great back and forth with our members on all aspects of the amp. Greg N9GB, let us know how you like it when yours arrives.

This month will be an in-person and Zoom meeting also on November 21th. This date is due to the fact the library was booked. It is getting time to discuss Dayton/Xenia (never too early) and with that thought I would like to check on the status of the CW Contest and what needs to be done in preparation. Smart thinking suggests hardware replacement, so we need to decide on that.

The annual Christmas party will be on December 16th at RC's in Martin City again. Please RSVP to a club officer either via direct email or on the groups.io email.

Also, as we close in on the end of 2022, do not forget the WØAR and NØSS and submitting your entries. Submit them before the end of January. Submittals MUST be sent in to me (I will distribute to the Award and Contest committee members until we get an email specifically for this established) at k0xm@k0xm.net by January 15, 2023. Full information is on the club web site.

Folk's in looking forward we really need to find a new meeting place to give us a little more freedom on meeting length, and also more centrally located. It MUST have Zoom (internet) access as this will be staying as a main part of our meetings.

Speaking of Zoom, I will be switching the account over to the club and the club should pick up the tab for 2023 (as was voted on by you the members way back when). I will do this AFTER the November meeting in case something breaks. Starting with January 1st will not be covering the cost. Since you members agreed to pay the fee, I will pass on all the info to Rick so the club will become the owner.

Until next month. CUL

73 es Good DX
Chuck KØXM (ex- NØBIW)

October 31, 2022



Kansas City DX Club Meeting Minutes By K0THN

The October 2022 meeting of the Kansas City DX Club was called to order early by President Chuck Kraly, K0XM at 6:29pm CDT (October 31, 2329UTC). The meeting was conducted on Zoom only.

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Presentation by DH3NAB, Reinhard Foertsch, Germany regarding the RF-Kit HF Amplifier RF2K-S.
3. Upcoming DXpeditions and Contests
4. Financial Report
5. Next Meetings

Intrioductions

We each introduced ourselves. Activity in the recent CQWW SSB DX Contest was discussed. There one or two unusual characters on the meeting due to the fact that this was Halloween.

Presentation Reinhard Foretsch DH3NAB
The RF-Kit B26-PA RF2K-S HF Amplifier



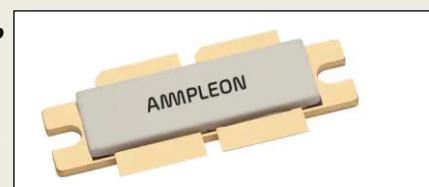
Reinhard introduced himself and gave a brief history of how the solid state amplifier came to be. He developed the hardware and a friend developed the software which runs on a Raspberry Pi.

This amplifier was reviewed on page 36 of the November 2022 issue of QST.

The RF-Kit web site is rf-kit.de

He described:

- The excellent linearity of this 1500 Watt solid-state amplifier
- The user interface which is all on the touch-screen display
- The many capabilities of the built in tuner and the speed with which it can change from one memorized state to another
- Remote operation
- Sales and support from Island Amplifier USA in Placentia, CA.
- The output transistors are two Ampleon BLF189B LDMOS (Laterally Diffused Metal Oxide Semiconductor) FETS. Each rated at 1700 Watt Power dissipation.



Contests

ARRL CW Sweepstakes

WAE RTTY

CQ WW DX CW

As usual, see the WA7BNM online calendar

DXpeditions

Chuck, K0XM again provided information from the DX World website for upcoming DXpeditions. Looks like several good ones are coming up this month.

P29, 5V7, J28, FJ, ZC4, ZD7, T8 were highlighted. Bouvet is almost here.

This information will be provided on groups.io. Chuck also uses the NG3K Announced DX Operations website for information. This information is also available on the <https://kcdxclub.org/dxpeditions> website.

Financial Report

Treasurer Rick Parent W0ZAP reported that as of this meeting our bank balance was \$9882.10.

Next Meetings

The November meeting will be held in the Carmack room at the Johnson County Library and on Zoom on November 21, 2022. This is because the room reservation on November 28 was taken from us.

There is no December meeting as it is replaced with the club banquet to be held on Dec. 16 at R.C.'s at 6pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Charlie Hett, K0THN, KCDX Club Secretary.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

BY KY00

Fellow testers and Dxers, we discuss sequencing and hookup of transverters in this month's column.

First, we talk about hooking transverters up to the HF radio.

COMMON IF CONNECTIONS

Common IF connections use one of the HF radio's HF antenna ports to operate both transmit and receive. The advantage here is one IF connection from the transverter to the radio. This is needed when the HF radio has no set of connections for a transverter. Lots of ops use QRP radios for this duty. This can give an operator a small package for roving, and can allow for multiple bands from one IF.

This can cause some thought and planning because most radios, even QRP radios can blow up the input of the transverter since they transmit at least five watts.

We can add voltage to the ALC circuit with the HF radio set at minimum transmit output, then set the ALC to get the needed drive. We can also place an attenuator between the transverter and radio to cut down the drive to the transverter. The attenuator, though, will drop receive performance markedly, so think carefully. Make sure you have the right drive level or you'll let the magic smoke out. That plays hell with the point totals!

SPLIT IF

Split IF is just what it says. You have one line to the transverter drive output of an HF radio, and the other to the spare antenna jack or one of the HF antenna ports. The advantages here are several.

First, the transverter drive port only sends output at about one milliwatt (0DBM) out. Transverters like this kind of input. You don't have to mess with the radio's ALC, and don't need an attenuator when in receive. Much slicker setup. With no attenuator in the receive line, you get all the performance of both the HF radio AND the transverter on receive. This spare receive antenna jack can also be used for very low-output devices such as downconverters for satellite work or long-wave up-conversion work for radio astronomy or work in the new bands below the AM broadcast band.

With the new SDR's and quadrature detection, we can place a separate high-quality receiver at the end of the transverter's receive line and get all kinds of enhanced performance. This frees up the spare antenna jack for other HF and VHF uses, and can improve the operability of the station by adding a scope so to watch the whole operating band width.

SWITCHING

The lash up needs a method of switching between transmit and receive. With single IF systems, the TR switching of the HF radio operates just like it does on HF where the antenna port used is switched between transmit and receive. It is suggested that the transceiver's Key line delay is set to maximum, as if an HF or VHF amplifier is in line. This is a crude sequencer that waits until all relays in the HF radio are switched before turning on the transmitter. More on sequencing in a moment. Here, the HF radio is set up to switch between the spare receive antenna jack and the low-level drive level set up for transverter or RF sampling system use.

PREAMP LOCATION

The preamp, should be at the antenna for best performance, but in most cases, we put it at the radio for a couple of reasons.

1. It's easier to replace! If it's ten below, (Celsius) you don't want to have

to go out and climb the tower to replace the preamp because it's contest day and you procrastinated. True, better performance there, but you gotta add a filter up there, too. If you got a hazer or can lower your tower, put the preamp, your solid-state amplifier, the transverter and the filter at the antenna in a weather-proof housing. Make your IF cable runs longer and your antenna feed line runs as short as you can if you can lower the antennas for modification easily.

2. It takes a lot less time to change out preamps in the shack than up top.

3. Lots less voltage drop, and no need for a biased-T for control to go upstairs. Less to go wrong and less chance to blow the magic smoke out of something.

SEQUENCING

Sequencing is not as hard a concept to understand as it sounds.

Modern VHF/UHF preamps are built around gallium-arsenide semiconductor field effect devices. They are easy to blow up with transients, so we switch the preamp out before we do anything else. This is done with a sequencer. What on Earth is that?

A sequencer is a device that steps through a switching procedure which protects the preamp. Here's what happens.

When the sequencer sees a switch closure or a voltage from the mike PTT line or amplifier key line, it first switches the preamp to a fifty-ohm load to isolate it from spikes or transients. Then, it switches the antenna line to transmit. The last thing it does is switch on the transmitter. This process is done in reverse when going back to receive.

The sequencer energizes the switching relays in receive. Wha-a-a-a-t!

Yes. This is done so that when the station is shut down, the preamp is connected to the fifty-ohm isolation dummy load, once again to protect the transistors. This is called "fail-safe mode". If the power fails, your preamp is hopefully saved. This means you REVERSE the transmit and receive coax connections on ALL of the Transco or Dalkey relays for this to work. The antenna or common connector goes to the antenna, as normal. A third relay switches the preamp from the receiver to the fifty-ohm isolation load, and is also reversed and energized in receive mode.

I'd still set the amplifier delay as high as the transceiver will allow, even with a sequencer. If you use the mike line, that's better, because the sequencer can also change the PTT line in the HF radio's mike jack AFTER it protects the preamp.

I hope this column isn't too confusing, but if you draw a diagram, or even do a hook up to gain the ideas mentioned here, it'll make more sense.-KY00

WØXE BECOMES SILENT KEY

BY ABØX

Longtime KCDXC member, Don Devins, passed away on Sat., Nov. 5th, from issues caused by a third stroke. His family held a service for Don at Ryan's Mortuary in Salina, KS, on Nov. 11th. Don lived most of his adult life in Overland Park, KS, and was an active ham and DXer for many years. Don worked as an EE after graduating from KU. He was popular and well liked by all who knew him, especially those in the ham radio community.

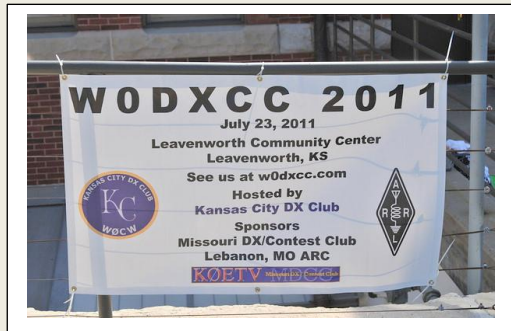
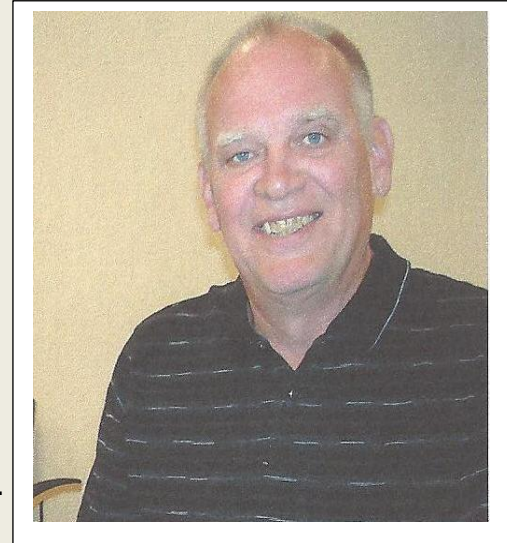
WØXE loved the KCDXC and had a large portion of the money from the sale of his radio equipment by his brother donated to the KCDXC. He set an excellent example for how KCDXC members can handle their estate.

Don was instrumental in the KCDXC's role of sponsoring the WØDXCC DX Convention. He served as Chairman of the committee that planned and executed a truly great DX event in Zeroland in 2011. WØXE spent countless hours pouring over spreadsheets projecting the expenses and income of the WØDXCC. In the photo below NØAG(KCDXC President at the time of WØDXCC) is shown presenting WØXE an award for his service as Chairman of WØDXCC.

WØXE also developed and shared a logging/ scoring program for the annual WØAR DX Contest. Many members still use Don's program for the annual competition. He spent many hours updating it each year before being forced to enter an assisted living facility in Salina about 18 months ago.

Rest in Peace, Don!

You will be long remembered for your service to the KCDXC.



KØLW ARRL DXCC CARD CHECKER!

Lee is now officially an ARRL DXCC Card Checker. KCDXC members can call on him to check their latest QSL cards for the ARRL programs of DXCC and WAS. Thanks, to our ARRL Midwest Section Director, KØIAZ, Abe, KØLW was approved quickly after the retirement of ACØA as one of the area ARRL DXCC Card Checkers. ACØA served 12 years as an ARRL Card Checker. KØLW joins ABØX as a Card Checker for the KC area of the Midwest Division. Contact Lee at Lee Ward k0lw160@gmail.com if you would like to meet him to check QSL cards. Of course, KØLW and ABØX are both usually available before KCDXC meetings to check cards at

the JOCO Library. Contact either of them so they can come early to meetings.

DX NEWS & VIEWS

BY ABØX

Many DXers have complained that FT-8 requires little skill or effort to make contacts. One local boy proved this recently when he taught his dog to run his station on FT-8. Thanks, to NØCWR, who sent over this pic of his collie, Jack, running the rig, while Kevin was out raking leaves and doing yard work.



Wonder if Jack travels and could work a couple of FT-8 contests as a hired gun??? NØCWR reports Jack is up 83 DXCC countries on FT-8!

Now, on to the real world of DX. Ohio/Penn Bulletin reports some sad news for DXers:

*** SPECIAL NOTE FROM EDITOR TEDD KB8NW: I am sad to report that this will be my last OPDX Bulletin. After just under 32 years of writing the OPDX Bulletin (OPDXB), I have decided to retire. Actually I have been providing DX information for the last 42 years starting on a local RTTY BBS, Packet Radio BBS and an online dial-up BBS called BARF80 (which received global phone calls before adding the InterNet to it). The last 42 years has been fun, but it is time to retire due to my age (I

turned 70 this year) and my health (less pressure writing a bulletin each week and my eyes are not what they used to be). Beside the field of providing DX information over the last couple of years has become crowded, and "some" providers have turned it into a competition instead of helping and promoting DXing. I am happy to say that the OPDX Bulletin has been totally FREE for all those years with NO ADS, NO GAMES, NO HYPE, NO BOASTING and NO REQUESTS for donations (but there have been a few [very few] unsolicited donations. Thanks to those donators.

I would like to thank the many individuals who have provided DX information for the OPDXB over the past 31+ years, but it would be just too many to list. However, there are some individuals I have to mention. Thanks to Father Steve Walick/SK, Dave Foran/WB8APD/SK, Rick DeMattia/KD8WCK and Steve Gregory/W8SKG. They kept the servers that the OPDXB goes out on the InterNet running. Also, thanks to John Papay/K8YSE for hosting the OPDXB all these years on his Web page. Then there is my wife, Linda, OPDXB's Chief Proof-Reader (retired Special-LD teacher and non-ham], who has put up with me all these years and for checking my work.

I hope in some way I was able to help you readers get your DXCC or possibly work an All-Time-New-One (ATNO); be it a new entity or a new band fill. Good Luck and Good DX.... 73 de Tedd KB8NW

P.S. The OPDX Mailing List will still be active to provide upcoming DXpedition announcements and special press releases. They will not be in bulletin format.

THANKS, TEDD, ALL YOUR RELIABLE INFO AND HARD WORK OVER THE YEARS!-AB0X

DX NEWS:

3Y0J BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION NEWS. Co-Leaders Ken, LA7GIA, posted a long update on the 3Y0J Bouvet Island FaceBook page on October 26th. In an excerpt Ken states: We have expanded our team with PILOTS! The pilots will be the important link between the DXers and the 3Y0J team. They will relay to us how the propagation is in various parts of the world and what band/opening is good or if we missed one.

CHIEF PILOT - EU PILOT: Morten, LA3MHA

NA EAST COAST PILOT: Steve, N2AJ

NA WEST COAST PILOT: Rich, KE1B

SA PILOT: Siso, HK3W

VK/ZL/OC PILOT: LEE, VK3GK

AS/JA PILOT: Champ, E21EIC

You can view the complete update at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3093983840726129>

4L, GEORGIA. Mamuka Kordzakhia, 4L2M, President of the National Association Radio Amateurs of Georgia (NARG), will be active during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 29-30th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (40m)/High Power entry. QSL via EA7FTR.

5B, CYPRUS. Andreas, 5B4AQT, has only recently (September 2022) been licensed at age 12, and is expected to be in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 29-30th) as a

Single-Op entry (youth overlay). QSL via 5B4AQT, direct or by the Bureau.

5R, MADAGASCAR. Eiki, JH8JWF, is now active as 5R8AS from Ivato, Talatamaty, Madagascar (AF-013), until November 6th. Activity will be on various HF bands (80-6m) using FT8. He will also be in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 29-30th). QSL via LoTW or ClubLog.

7P, LESOTHO (Postponed). The "South African Ham Radio (Mini) Dxpedition 2022" that was expected to be active as 7P8CW from Lesotho between November 2-7th, has postponed their operation. They posted the following on QRZ.com: With regret we need to postpone our Dxpedition with immediate effect as one of our team members and their family have been in a critical car accident. We will attempt 7P8CW next year giving them time to recover. Thanks for your understanding.

9G, GHANA. Dave, AB0GC, who is active as 9G1SD from Wenchi, Brong Region, Ghana, has been on 17/15/12/10/6 meters FT8/FT4 during different times throughout the day. QSL via AB0GC, direct, eQSL or LoTW. NO Bureau.

9L, SIERRA LEONE (Unusual Callsign). John, G0EWI, is now active as 9LYJD1 (callsign is correct) from Congo Cross, Freetown, Sierra Leone, until November 3rd. As this was being written, there were no QSNs reported. On QRZ.com, it states that his station is a FT-450D into an EFHW (80-6m). QSL via his home callsign.

TONGA, A3. Stan, LZ1GC and Ivan, LZ1PM are QRV as A35GC from Tongatapu, IOTA OC-049, until November 20. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8 with two stations. QSL via LZ1GC.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, TL. A group of operators will be QRV as TL8AA and TL8ZZ from November 12 to 26. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and with FT8 in DXpedition mode, respectively. QSL direct to I2YSB.

THANKS TO OHIO/PENN DX BULLETIN AND THE ARRL DX BULLETIN!

SEND IN YOUR STATION PICS TO AB0X, ab0x@kc.rr.com !!

KCDX CLUB
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The ARRL logo features a globe with a diamond shape containing the letters 'ARRL' and a small radio icon.

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